

NEBRASKA PLANNING COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

DRAFT

Executive Summary

Five-Year State Plan

Goals and Objectives

October 2016 – September 2021

Nebraska Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities State Plan, 2017-2021

Each State Developmental Disabilities (DD) Council is required to submit a 5-Year State Plan to the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) outlining the intended use of federal funding allocated for its basic operational grant. State Plans are focused on improving the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities through full inclusion and participation in all aspects of community life. The federal government expects DD Councils to identify goals that can be achieved in five years using available resources. Federal law mandates that the State Plan address some or all of the Areas of Emphasis established by Congress in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act).

The Areas of Emphasis are as follows:

Child Care - Community Supports - Early Intervention - Education - Employment - Health Related
Housing - Quality Assurance - Recreation - Transportation

There are three required goals or objectives that must be included in every Council's State Plan:

1. Self-Advocacy - the DD Act requires that we have a self-advocacy goal every year of the State Plan that includes:
 - Support to a statewide self-advocacy organization,
 - Facilitating people with developmental disabilities providing leadership training to their peers, and
 - Activities to promote the participation of people with disabilities in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.
2. Targeted Disparity – looking at disparity in services based on a minority status of some kind. A State Plan goal or objective must address underserved and unserved groups of people in order to try to see what the causes are for a service disparity, and to then try and address it with specific actions.
3. Collaboration - while the DD Act has always called for collaboration among the DD Network partners (Disability Rights Nebraska, Munroe-Meyer Institute University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities [UCEDD], and the Nebraska Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities), we are asked to show more strategic activities so they can better see what collaborations are happening where the entire DD Network is involved.

The Nebraska Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council) spent many months collecting public input through surveys, interviews, and focus groups. More than 350 people with disabilities, families, professionals, and advocates provided feedback in a needs assessment survey distributed state wide last summer and early fall. The goal of the survey distribution was to have a broad representation including geographic distribution, language and ethnic diversity, and multiple developmental disabilities. The Needs Assessment report was published in December 2015 and is available on the Council's [website](#).

Survey, focus group, and interview participants were asked to prioritize the top areas where the Council should focus future efforts. Employment was the top priority, followed by other community services and supports, including issues regarding knowledge of and access to successful transition into adult services and other community resources for adult living. Other concerns tied directly to challenges faced in experiencing inclusion in all facets of community life. This included access to respite care and childcare services, inclusive education, social environments, and other programs and services offered throughout the state.

Council members and Council Planning Committee members reviewed the feedback to determine the goals and objectives to utilize Council funding resources on priorities identified statewide. The State Plan is developed in accordance with requirements of the DD Act. This plan will be in effect for the 2017-2021 federal fiscal years beginning October 1, 2016 and ending September 30, 2021. The plan will be submitted to AIDD, our federal oversight agency, by August 15, 2016.

Public Comment

The draft of the State Plan Goals and Objectives is now open for public comment. If you have comments or suggestions, please submit them to: Nebraska Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities, PO Box 95026, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-5026, or email dhhs.ddplanningcouncil@nebraska.gov by **May 16, 2016**.

After receiving feedback from the public comment period, the State Plan and any changes will be reviewed by Council members for final approval. Once approved, the State Plan will be submitted to the federal government.

Accessibility info: If you would like the State Plan Goals and Objectives draft in another format, please email dhhs.ddplanningcouncil@nebraska.gov or call 402-471-2330 or 402-471-9570 (TTY).

SEE FOLLOWING PAGES FOR DRAFT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Draft Goals and Objectives

The Nebraska Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities is dedicated to improving the **independence, productivity, and integration** of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).

Independence means having choices available, being able to choose, and exercising control over one's own life. **Productivity** means making a contribution to one's own household, neighborhood, and community. It means working in the community and earning a living. **Integration** means being present in the community, participating in the life of the community, and being valued as a person, friend, family member, and neighbor. These individuals have the same rights as anyone – the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, the right to be treated with respect and dignity, and the right to control one's own life and destiny. With this focus on improving the independence, productivity, and integration of people with I/DD, the Council has drafted the following Goals and Objectives.

Definitions

Diverse Identities refers to people of various races, cultural and ethnic heritages, genders, gender identities, gender expressions, sexual orientations, ages, and religions from diverse socio-economic and geographic backgrounds.

Community Integrated Employment refers to working for a competitive wage in a community-based job (i.e., a job that is not based in a community rehabilitation facility) at 20 hours a week or more. The employment must be in a work setting where, to the greatest extent possible, the employment typically involves interaction with co-workers and business associates who do not have disabilities and/or the general public. Integrated employment includes employment located in community businesses, self-employment, and ownership of micro-enterprises.

The 2017-2021 State Plan has four goals, each with a set of objectives and measurement outcomes. The Council will use the approved 5-Year State Plan to develop a detailed work plan for each year the State Plan will be in effect.

Goal 1. By September 2021, improve transition across the lifespan of more individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD) of diverse identities and their families.

Objective A. An increased number of individuals transitioning out of special education and their families will be provided with information to expand their knowledge of adult services and other community resources for adult living.

Measurement: Number of individuals and their families trained on adult services and other community resources.

Objective B. An increased number of adults with I/DD and their aging families will be identified through outreach activities and provided with information to expand their knowledge of adult services and other community resources.

Measurement: Number of:

- Adults with aging families identified through outreach activities.
- Adults and aging family members trained on adult services and other community resources.

Objective C. An increased number of individuals with I/DD and their families will be provided with information to expand their knowledge and acquire skills for developing self-directed, person-centered plans.

Measurement: Number of individuals and family members trained on development of self-directed, person-centered plans.

Goal 2. By September 2021, improve advocacy and self-advocacy for more individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD) of diverse identities and their families.

Objective A. Strengthen support for an increased number of self-advocates through leadership development and coalition participation by:

1. Supplying direct funding to People First of Nebraska for advocacy activities.
2. Supporting opportunities for individuals with I/DD who are considered leaders to provide leadership training to individuals with I/DD who may become leaders.
3. Supporting participation of self-advocates in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.

Measurement: Number of:

- Individuals trained in leadership, self-advocacy, and self-determination.
- Individuals participating in cross-disability and culturally diverse activities or organizations.

Objective B. Advocate for positive systems change impacting the lives and health of individuals with I/DD of diverse identities and their families through active participation in: statewide advisory committees and cross-disability workgroups; public policy advocacy; cross-systems dialogue; and DD Network collaboration.

Measurement: Number of systems change activities involving:

- Active participation in coalitions/networks/partnerships.
- Dialogue and collaboration with organizations engaged in systems change efforts.
- Education of public policymakers.

Goal 3. By September 2021, influence systems change to provide increased opportunities for more individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD) of diverse identities to pursue an employment path of their choice.

Objective A. Provide support to address barriers, advocate for, and expand opportunities for an increased number of individuals to participate in community integrated employment or entrepreneurship.

Measurement: Number of:

- Employment programs or policies created or improved.
- Organizations involved in coalitions, networks, or partnerships related to employment.
- Public policymakers educated on employment for individuals with I/DD.

Objective B. Increase opportunities for self-advocates to share employment experiences and promote community integrated employment and entrepreneurship with peers and stakeholders.

Measurement: Number of:

- Individuals trained in leadership, self-advocacy, and self-determination skills to share employment experiences.
- Opportunities for self-advocates to share their experiences.
- Stakeholders informed of ways to support community integrated employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

Objective C. Provide access to benefits planning services for an increased number of individuals and their families to support the person's employment choices.

Measurement: Number of:

- Individuals and families trained on the use of benefits planning services.
- Individuals and families who utilize benefits planning services.
- Resources available for benefits planning.

Goal 4. By September 2021, increase community inclusion for individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD) of diverse identities.

Objective A. Expand and enhance respite care services throughout the state.

Measurement: Number of:

- Individuals and families who report access to respite services.
- Individuals and families who utilize respite services.
- Respite options across the state.

Objective B. Expand and enhance inclusive childcare services throughout the state.

Measurement: Number of:

- Families who report access to inclusive childcare.
- Families who utilize inclusive childcare.
- Inclusive childcare options across the state.

Objective C. Increase opportunities for community inclusion for individuals with I/DD.

Measurement: Number of:

- Individuals who report opportunities for community inclusion in areas such as: where they live, work, or go to school; relationships; pursuit of personal interests; meeting spiritual needs; learning and personal growth; physical and emotional health; self-direction; and exercising rights, roles and responsibilities as a citizen.
- Programs or services offered.
- Community members or organizations trained to provide opportunities for community inclusion.